

Meeting Purpose

- Update Christine regarding EPA Assistance and TMDL Resubmit Progress
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Project Background

Ecology submitted the final Phase 1 Deschutes TMDL to EPA for approval on December 17, 2015. The submitted TMDL package included a request that EPA approve allocations for 71 (actually 73) Water Quality Limited Segments (WQLSs) impaired by five pollutants (temperature, dissolved oxygen [DO], pH, fecal coliform, and fine sediment). Beginning in February 2016, EPA has discussed with Ecology opportunities to remedy legal and technical shortcomings of the TMDL that have been identified by both EPA (WU, ORC) and potential plaintiffs (NWEA, SIT). The remedy recommended by EPA to Ecology included:

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Update

- EPA and Ecology are collaboratively developing the Deschutes TMDL resubmit letter
- EPA has calculated bacteria TMDLs for 12 watersheds to assist Ecology

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Issues

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- EPA HQ has recently (5/24/2017) voiced a request to review all TMDL approval actions.

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Key Questions and Decisions

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- When and how should we engage HQ?

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Process Recommendations to Key Questions

Ecology has interest in setting a decision schedule. To accommodate this request, the WU and ORC

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REGION 10 OWW TOPIC BRIEFING – Deschutes River TMDL (WA)

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